

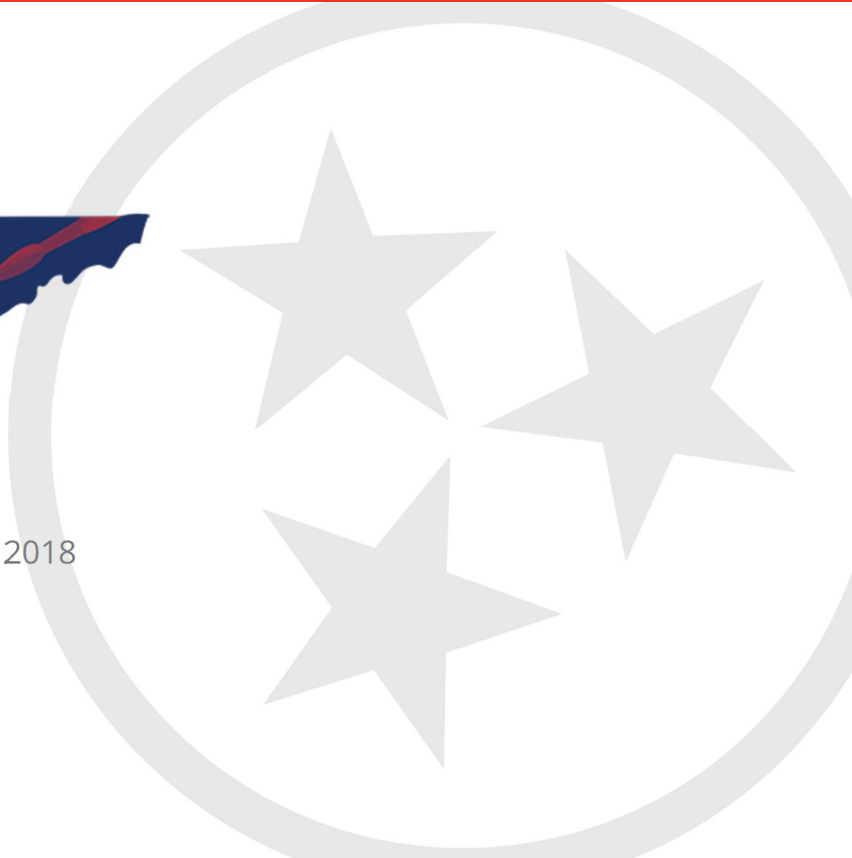


Department of
Education



2018 Music Grant

Tennessee Department of Education | July 2018



2018 Music Grant Request for Proposals

The Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE) seeks proposals to improve or develop music education programs.

Purpose

The purpose of the State of the Arts Music Grant is to fund initiatives and strategies that will expand students' access to high-quality music education.

Key Priorities

1. **Engage** more students in music education by providing access to high-quality, curriculum-driven, and sequential standards-based music instruction.
2. **Create** equity and alignment by establishing new music programs in schools previously underserved and by strengthening existing programs.
3. **Foster** excellence, creativity, and growth through a variety of traditional and innovative music programs.
4. **Support** highly effective music educators through professional development.
5. **Reflect** our culturally and ethnically diverse communities through outreach and community engagement.

Eligibility

The grant is available to all public school districts and Charter Management Organizations in Tennessee through a competitive application process.

How to Apply

Districts interested in applying for a grant will find all relevant materials on the [State of the Arts](#) website. Applications must be submitted through the "Apply Now" tab on the website. The application window opens on **Wednesday, Aug. 1**, and the final deadline to submit proposals is **Friday, Sept. 28 at 4 p.m. CT**. Districts will be notified of the status of their proposal no later than **Friday, Dec. 14**. If awarded, districts will develop a plan for implementation through collaboration with the TDOE, CMA Foundation, and fiscal sponsor. Full grant implementation will begin in **March 2019**.

Tennessee: State of the Arts is a public-private partnership between the Country Music Association (CMA) Foundation and the State of Tennessee. This initiative seeks to leverage Tennessee's rich history in the arts to launch a statewide program focused on expanding students' access to high-quality music and arts education.

Following a commitment of \$1 million in funding over three years, State of the Arts will build upon the expertise of the CMA Foundation to help develop a statewide initiative that aims to create a cohesive model for music and arts education in Tennessee. The CMA Foundation has invested over \$20 million across all 50 states working to ensure every child has access to a quality music education.



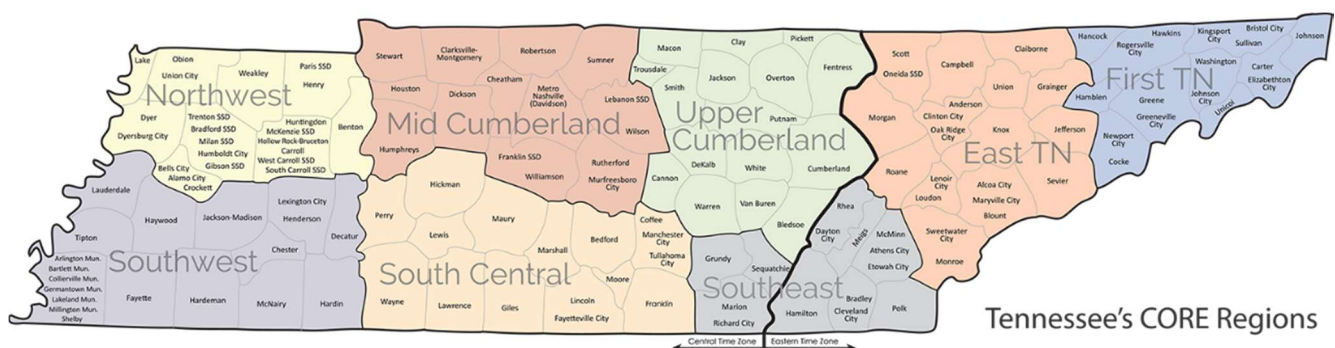
State of the Arts Program Criteria

The following are criteria for a district to be considered for the State of the Arts Music Grant:

1. The grant proposal should aim to serve all students – or a subset of students – within the district. Districts should prioritize programs that meet the needs of students with no or limited access to music education.
2. The proposal should demonstrate curricula and delivery systems that are aligned to the needs of students in the district.
3. The grant proposal should contain a thorough needs assessment that indicates both the strengths and deficiencies of the district's music education program.
4. The district should commit to developing a strategic plan for music education that includes measures and efforts for program sustainability beyond the grant period.
5. The proposal should include a community engagement plan that details strategies to foster stakeholder participation and support for the music programs within the district. The proposal should include a letter of support from any community partners or local businesses signing on to support the work.
6. Program coordinators must establish formative and summative evaluation measures to assess the impact of the grant.
7. Program coordinators must commit to participating in a community of practice to continually refine the program plan and disseminate best practices and strategies for model music education programs.

Awarding of Grants

Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, three-year grants will be awarded to eight school districts – one district from each of the state's eight CORE regions. Awards may range from \$50,000 to \$200,000 depending on the size and scope of the grant proposal. A distribution schedule of awarded funds will be developed with each awarded district based on the proposed needs, strategies, and expenses within the scope of the grant. A portion of grant funds may be allocated for operating costs (see *SOTA Strategies and Budgeting Resource Guide* under Application Resources tab).



Overview of the Application Process

The State of the Arts Music Grant Application must be submitted online using the web portal. The application form can be found on the [State of the Arts](#) web page. Please note: Paper submissions of the grant application will not be accepted. This document is meant to serve as a reference for the individual(s) preparing the grant application and offers a preview of the questions and information to be collected.

As part of the application/proposal, you will be asked to upload certain submissions via a spreadsheet template. **You must use the templates provided on the [State of the Arts](#) website.** You may also use charts, bulleted lists, or other graphical/organizational elements (uploaded as supporting attachments) as it makes sense for your proposal. A memo from the Director of schools authorizing submission of the grant application is required and must be uploaded as part of the application process. Supporting attachments should be uploaded in PDF form. Narrative responses should be limited to 250 words or less, unless instructed otherwise.

All elements of the application must be completed and submitted in order for your district's application to be considered.

The application consists of the following sections:

- I. District information
- II. Music program information
- III. District strategic plan for music and arts education
- IV. Needs assessment and impact strategies
- V. Proposed budget
- VI. Monitoring and accountability
- VII. Community support and engagement
- VIII. Implementation and planning
- IX. Supporting attachments

If current year data is not available, you may substitute data from 2017-18.

Many of the questions contained in the application serve as an information-gathering measure and allow the TDOE/review panel to understand background and establish context for your proposal. Do not assume that an answer of “no” or answers lacking depth due to a lack of current district structures and support will automatically disqualify your proposal. A focus of the State of the Arts initiative is to increase district capacity and structures to support the arts.

2018 State of the Arts Music Grant Application

I. District Information

1. District name
2. CORE region
3. Director of schools name and contact information
4. District mission/vision statements
5. Name and contact information of the person(s) preparing this grant application
6. List the names and roles of music educators who were involved in the collaboration and preparation of this grant application.

II. Music Program Information

1. How many students are currently served by music programs in the district? Provide a total and breakdown between tiers (elementary/middle/high) and category (general/instrumental/vocal/other).
2. What music courses and programs are offered in your district? (This can include curricular course offerings and regular extra- or co-curricular activities/programs.)
3. How many music teachers does your district currently have (expressed in FTEs) by tier (elementary, middle, high)? Identify the percentage of teachers possessing practitioner, professional, or other types of licensure.
4. Does your district currently participate in the Tennessee Fine Arts Growth Measures System (portfolio)? If so, how many years has it participated in the program? If the district does not currently participate in the portfolio model for music, how does your district provide feedback to music teachers?
5. How does the district support its school music programs financially (budget allocation, Title IV-A allocation, etc.)? Explain how the music programs in your district are funded.
6. Does the district have any current partners or ongoing relationships that support the music programs in district schools? Please provide a letter(s) of support as a supporting attachment.
7. Are you currently seeking supplemental grants or funding that benefit music programs? Discuss your district's experience securing grants for music initiatives.
8. What music-specific professional development opportunities does the district provide to music educators?
9. Identify the students (all or subset) whom your grant proposal will impact.

III. District Strategic Plan for Music Education

1. Does the district have strategic plan for music education (or is music a component of the district's overall strategic plan)? Upload the document. *If your district does not have a strategic plan for music education, please answer the following questions:*
 - What are the district's short-term goals for music education?
 - What are the district's long-term goals for music education?
2. Who was involved in the development of your strategic plan or goals for music education?
3. In what ways is your district monitoring and tracking progress toward meeting those goals?

IV. *Needs Assessment and Impact Strategies*

Using the provided template (*SOTA Needs and Strategies Template* under Application Resources tab), provide a thorough needs assessment of your district's music programs and music educators. This needs assessment should be inclusive of the schools (all schools – or a subset of schools), students, and educators your proposal will serve. You will also use this template to propose impact strategies and activities to be funded by the grant. You may use the *SOTA Strategies and Budgeting Resource Guide* for suggested strategies and activities.

V. *Proposed Budget*

Using the provided template (*SOTA Budget Template* under Application Resources tab), attach the proposed budget detailing how your district plans on expending the requested funds. You may use the *SOTA Strategies and Budgeting Resource Guide* to guide your creation of a budget. You are encouraged to solicit the collaboration of music educators within your district regarding estimation of equipment needs, local contracted services, and programmatic/operating costs.

VI. *Monitoring and Accountability*

Provide a narrative describing summative and formative evaluation measures your district might use for ongoing monitoring and assessing of the impact of the grant.

VII. *Community Support and Engagement*

1. In what ways do the district's music programs currently engage with and support the community?
2. Briefly describe your community's support of the music programs in your district.
3. In thinking about ways to promote music and arts education advocacy, briefly outline your communication strategy as it relates to community outreach and engagement. Districts are encouraged to include information about how the music programs could be used as a community outreach tool.

VIII. *Implementation and Planning*

1. Identify the person who will serve as the project manager for your district (responsible for overseeing the planning, implementation, and accountability, if awarded).
2. Please detail this individual's qualifications to serve in the role of project manager.
3. If awarded, what challenges do you anticipate you may encounter implementing these strategies in your district? How will you address those challenges?

IX. *Supporting Attachments*

- This could include charts, bulleted lists, or other graphical/organizational elements to support your proposal.
- You may also upload letters of support from community or business partners.

Application Review and Evaluation Process

The State of the Arts Music Grant Evaluation Framework is available on the [State of the Arts](#) website.

Grant application window opens

Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2018

Grant application submission deadline

Friday, Sept. 28, 2018

Staff review

Oct. 1-5, 2018

Staff review applications for eligibility and completeness and may contact applicants if questions arise. Completed applications meeting eligibility requirements are made available for panel review.

Panel review

Oct. 8-26, 2018

A seven-member panel of music/grant subject matter experts and TDOE personnel reviews and rates applications in accordance with State of the Arts Music Grant Review and Evaluation Framework. The panel narrows the applicant pool to a selection of finalist districts.

Finalist interviews and site visits

Oct. 29-Nov. 30, 2018

The State of the Arts Program Director conducts site visits and interviews with each finalist district. Final recommendations for grant funding are submitted to the review panel.

Announcement of awarded grants

Dec. 3-14, 2018

The Tennessee Department of Education notifies applicants of funding status and publicly announces grant winners.

For technical support regarding the State of the Arts Grant and Application, please email arts.education@tn.gov.